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NEWS RELEASE



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Utah's courts are committed to open, fair, and independent justice.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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JUDICIAL NOMINATING COMMISSION SELECTS NOMINEES FOR SEVENTH DISTRICT COURT VACANCY

Price, UT---The Seventh District Judicial Nominating Commission has selected three nominees for a vacancy in the Seventh District Court. The position will replace Seventh District Court Judge Bruce K. Halliday, who announced his retirement effective February 2007. The Seventh Judicial District is comprised of Carbon, Emery, Grand, and San Juan counties.

The nominees are as follows: W. Brent Langston, chief deputy county attorney, Emery County, Ferron; Gene E. Strate, Carbon County attorney, Helper; Second District Court Commissioner Douglas B. Thomas, Layton.

A 10-day public comment period will be held before the names are submitted to Gov. Jon M. Huntsman, Jr. Seventh District Nominating Commission Chair Sam Singleton is accepting written comments regarding the nominees at Administrative Office of the Courts, P.O. Box 140241, Salt Lake City, UT, 84114-0241. The deadline for written comments is 5 p.m. on Jan. 2, 2007.

The commission may request further interviews or an investigation of the nominees after reviewing public comments. After the public comment period, the names will be sent to the governor who has 30 days to select a candidate. The Governor's nominee is then forwarded to the Senate Confirmation Committee, which reviews the nominee's qualifications and conducts a public hearing and interview session. The Senate Confirmation Committee will forward the final nominee to the Utah State Senate, which has 60 days from the Governor's nomination to confirm the nominee.

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